



## *City of Champions* *Linda M. Balzotti- Mayor*

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### ***City of Brockton receives \$60,000 state grant*** *Mass in Motion kick-off event scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup>*

BROCKTON – Mayor Linda M. Balzotti is pleased to announce that the City of Brockton has contracted with the Brockton YMCA to facilitate the city's Mass in Motion Municipal Wellness and Leadership Planning Grant.

"This funding, and the planning process that it allows, will help Brockton pinpoint new initiatives that will promote and foster the health and well-being of all Brockton's residents," said Mayor Balzotti. "Through this program, we hope to engage every member of our diverse community, irrespective of their age, native language, or cultural background."

The Mass in Motion Initiative is a \$60,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health aimed at planning and implementing a municipal wellness program geared toward fighting obesity and getting residents more active. Mayor Balzotti's office will be partnering with the Old Colony YMCA who will manage the grant under Community Planner Megan Goloboy.

"Any efforts that can be made to address the overweight and obesity epidemic are critical at this time, as this issue not only impacts individual community members, but also communities as a whole," said Goloboy. "We now have the chance to coordinate the many efforts already being put forth in Brockton to create a comprehensive action plan, with the hope of long lasting results that promote a healthy lifestyle for residents of all ages."

A kick-off event will be held Monday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. in the Main branch of the Brockton Public Library, 304 Main St. The event will be hosted by Brockton's Promise Healthy Start Team which will be at the helm of the Mass in Motion Initiative for the next eight months.

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“Innovative city-wide changes in policy and action can make an enormous difference in combating childhood obesity,” said DPH Commissioner John Auerbach. “With the leadership and involvement of the Mayor, the YMCA and other community leaders, I am confident that the *Mass in Motion* work in Brockton will be very successful”.

Mass in Motion is funded by the following partners: Blue Cross Blue Shield (Corporate); BCBS Foundation, Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare Foundation, the Boston Foundation, Metrowest Community Healthcare Foundation, and Tufts Health Plan Foundation.

For more information about the Mass in Motion Initiative, contact Megan Goloboy at (508) 583-2155, ext. 275 or Mayor’s Office at (508) 580-7123.

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